

INCOMING TELEGRAM

Department of State

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TO: Secretary of State

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SENT DEPARTMENT 2214, STOCKHOLM 33

PRAVDA AND IZVESTIA MARCH 29 BOTH HAVE FRONT PAGE EDITORIALS ON ERLANDER'S VISIT AND SEVERAL OTHER SOVIET PAPERS HAVE TRAVEL ARTICLES ON SWEDEN. PRAVDA EDITORIAL POINTS OUT BENEFITS TO SWEDEN AND TO WORLD PEACE OF "ALLIANCE-FREE" POLICY AND SAYS "SOVIET UNION HAS ALWAYS UNDERSTOOD AND RESPECTED SWEDEN'S NEUTRALITY POLICY. HISTORY OF SOVIET-SWEDISH RELATIONS SHOWS MANY EXAMPLES WHEN SOVIET UNION ACTED AS SINCERE FRIEND SWEDISH PEOPLE...OUR COUNTRIES ARE BOTH IN BASIN OF BALTIC SEA AND INTERESTS BOTH STATES DEMAND RELATIONS BETWEEN ALL BALTIC COUNTRIES DEVELOP ON BASIS EQUALITY AND RESPECT OF SOVEREIGNTY, THAT BALTIC SHOULD NEVER BE ARENA OF COMBAT ACTIVITY BUT SHOULD BE TURNED INTO ZONE OF PEACE...SOVIET PEOPLE APPRECIATED STATEMENTS SWEDISH POLITICAL AND PUBLIC FIGURES AGAINST STATIONING FOREIGN TROOPS ON DANISH AND NORWEGIAN TERRITORIES IN TIME OF PEACE". RECENT EVENTS HAVE SHOWN, ARTICLE SAYS, PERSONAL CONTACTS BETWEEN GOVERNMENT LEADERS IMPROVE INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS AND IT IS HOPED ERLANDER'S VISIT, LIKE THOSE OF FINNISH, NORWEGIAN AND DANISH HEADS OF GOVERNMENT, WILL IMPROVE SOVIET RELATIONS WITH NORTHERN COUNTRIES.

IZVESTIA EDITORIAL SIMILAR IN TONE AND CONTENT.

WILMSELEY

RNS

*No mention of  
Raoul WALLENBERG which was a  
chief subject of your communique.*

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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
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